

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicants:** Bakis et al.

**Examiner:** A. Armstrong

**Serial No.:** 09/286,099

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**For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR RESCORING N-BEST HYPOTHESES  
OF AN AUTOMATIC SPEECH RECOGNITION SYSTEM**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT**

1. (Amended) A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for rescoring N-best hypotheses of [a decoded original waveform output from] an automatic speech recognition system, [the N-best hypotheses comprising N text sequences,] the method steps comprising:
  - generating a synthetic waveform for each of [the] N text sequences representing the N-best hypotheses output from a speech recognition system;
  - comparing each synthetic waveform with [the] an original waveform decoded by the speech recognition system to determine the synthetic waveform that is closest to the original waveform; and
  - selecting for output the text sequence corresponding to the synthetic waveform determined to be closest to the original waveform.

9. (Amended) A method for rescoring N-best hypotheses of [a decoded original waveform output from] an automatic speech recognition system, [the N-best hypotheses comprising N text sequences,] the method comprising the steps of:

- generating a synthetic waveform for each of the N text sequences representing the N-best hypotheses output from a speech recognition system;
- comparing each synthetic waveform with [the] an original waveform decoded by the speech recognition system to determine the synthetic waveform that is closest to the original waveform; and
- selecting for output the text sequence corresponding to the synthetic waveform determined to be closest to the original waveform.

Respectfully submitted,

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